



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady. Demand into all channels covered the full range with best interest for retail ads and fast food promotions. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle current needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair. Wings were close to tight, dark meat was adequate, and breast items were more than sufficient with limited demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable, but at times trending heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 to 68.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.75 cents last year on October 23, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	199.00
BREASTS - B/S	180.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	89.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.00
LEG QUARTERS	31.50
WINGS	91.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to fair and trading was limited since regular commitments usually satisfied trade needs. Supplies were at least adequate for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was slow to fair, best for wings which were balanced to well cleared. Breast items were more controllable, but easy to obtain, and dark meat was in good supply and moving. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes remained sufficient for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was mostly fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were adequate. Tenderloins were available.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers remained steady. Offerings were light to moderate for the limited trade interest. Fill in trade into the Chicago area reported on 3 up Wogs at 46 cents. Retail and food service movement was sluggish overall; a few reports of fairly decent demand into fast food, independent retailers in the St. Louis area where labor strife continues, and into retail features in the Chicago area. Retail features noted on roasters at 89 cents; boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.99, \$1.97, and \$1.89; split breasts at 99 cents; tenderloins at \$2.99; leg quarters at 69 and 19 cents; and drums at 99 cents. Expectations were mixed on increased movement in all sectors for upcoming weekend. Floor stocks were adequate to more than adequate. Weights were desirable to trending heavier than desired. In the parts complex, wings continue to draw good interest and sales were brisk when product was available, dark meat items were available with fair demand, and breast items were fully adequate and slow to clear. The market tone was steady to firm on wings, steady on dark meat cuts and cautiously steady to weak on breast items.

WESTERN The market tone was mainly steady. Offerings adequate. Retailer demand fair. Floor stocks adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 10/18/03	2003	2002	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	190,198	185,654	+02
CHICKS PLACED	160,184	155,782	+03

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 190 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 18, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 160 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 18, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 18, 2003 were 7.03 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 29-Nov-03 is estimated at 146.4 million head. This compares to 145.8 million head the previous week and to 145.5 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 116.9 million head and the composite weighted average price was 53.36 cents per pound.

OCTOBER 21, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

OCTOBER 22, 2003

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	880	143.00-225.00	145-149	148.61	BREAST - B/S	872	145.00-225.00	148-152	150.83
TENDERLOINS	249	142.00-215.00	143-147	151.84	TENDERLOINS	238	140.00-212.00	140-150	150.76
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				BREAST - LINE RUN	94	80.00-92.00	83-84	83.67
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	32.00-52.00	33-35	35.88	LEGS	113	33.00-52.00	33-35	35.76
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	588	26.00-30.00	26-27	27.01	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	628	26.00-30.00	26-27	26.56
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	615	28.00-33.00	29-30	30.61	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	945	27.00-33.00	30-31	30.15
WINGS (WHOLE)	260	88.00-90.00	-	89.54	WINGS (WHOLE)	110	88.00-92.00	88-90	89.18
WINGS (CUT)	505	92.00-108.00	-	97.57	WINGS (CUT)	691	92.00-108.00	-	98.45
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
48.00 - 52.50	49.47	48.00 - 52.50	49.87	49.84

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was about fair during midweek trading as dealers limited orders to normal commitments. Offerings of breast items were at least sufficient. Legs and leg quarters were generally adequate. Wings were clearing well. Tenderloins were available. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair with best draw centering around scattered features. The market tone was barely steady on tenderloins and about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. OCTOBER 21, 2003

OCTOBER 21, 2003				OCTOBER 22, 2003			
ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	155-160	152.61	627,920	BREAST - B/S	155-160	150.84	494,600
TENDERLOINS	150	145.85	153,800	TENDERLOINS	145-150	137.92	117,290
BREAST - WITH RIBS	76-77	83.37	221,840	BREAST - WITH RIBS	76-77	84.04	216,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	76	78.70	125,480	BREAST - LINE RUN	76	78.45	117,200
LEGS	38-39	38.27	311,480	LEGS	38-39	37.59	262,280
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	30.00	411,416	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29-30	29.75	368,797
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	38.58	151,270	DRUMSTICKS	34-35	37.87	85,910
THIGHS	29-30	39.86	70,130	THIGHS	29-30	39.35	88,410
B/S THIGHS	84-85	85.41	103,620	B/S THIGHS	84-85	86.53	92,450
WINGS (WHOLE)	80-81	86.74	163,800	WINGS (WHOLE)	80-81	89.62	123,280
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	26,240	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.94	55,770
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.27	8,760	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	31.92	15,760
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	63.89	19,680	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	61.42	28,880

 INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	10/22	10/21	10/20	10/17	10/20	10/17	10/15	10/13
ALA	4,096	4,107	3,837	3,938	5.34	5.15	4,089	5.29
ARK	5,315	5,371	5,368	4,998	5.10	5.04	5,893	5.17
DELMARVA	2,327	2,305	2,317	2,606	5.55	5.45	2,302	5.60
KY-LA-TN	1,993	1,998	1,991	1,907	4.99	4.83	1,990	4.98
MISS	2,693	2,659	2,688	2,764	5.53	5.59	2,877	5.51
NC	2,455	2,401	2,365	2,934	6.26	6.48	2,355	6.34
TEXAS	2,453	2,729	2,498	2,464	5.05	4.86	2,421	5.08
TOTAL	21,332	21,570	21,064	21,611	5.36	5.34	21,927	5.38
MON-WED 63,719(A)								

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10/22 is estimated to be 31,915,000 down 3.0 percent from a week ago and up 0.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,904,000; last year 31,912,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	91-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	100
	DRY PACK	101-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	89-105
	DRY PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 25-OCT-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	10/25/03 (1)	10/18/03
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	160,301 (2)	164,678
LT HENS	1,239	1,268
HVY HENS	1,431	1,425
CHECK TOTAL	162,971	167,371

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 25-Oct-03 is 158.3 million head compared to 160.6 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 160.6 million head or 2.3 million more than estimated available. For week of 01-Nov-03 the estimated available is 157.2 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
LBS		LBS	
AM 10/20/03	194,387	AM 10/20/03	47,102
AM 10/01/03	205,956	AM 10/01/03	49,344
CHG	-11,569	CHG	-2,242
PCT CHG	-6	PCT CHG	-5

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	10/20/03	10/13/03	10/21/02	10/20/03	10/13/03	10/21/02
PACIFIC						
COAST	14,824	15,633	23,219	4,206	4,605	6,540
LOS						
ANGELES	442	441	1,450	1,950	2,227	4,224

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		59-65
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	64-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 10/21/03			
	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	.85	.56
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.45	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.60	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	1.60	-
ROASTERS lb.	1.20	1.50	1.33
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	1.10	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	.40	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.70	1.75	1.09
GEESE lb.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	1.00	1.55	1.28
RABBITS lb.	.40	1.00	.80
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-
TOTAL COOPS	117		

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending October 17, 2003

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Back &Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	39.50	104.81	60.46	12.09	12.09	40.31
High	44.34	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	40.31
Mostly	42.33	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	40.31

SAN JUAN

Low	39.50	104.81	60.46	12.09	12.09	39.50
High	43.53	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	39.50
Mostly	42.33	104.81	60.46	12.09	12.09	39.50

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	39.50	104.81	60.46	12.09	12.09	40.31
High	42.33	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	40.31
Mostly	42.33	108.84	60.46	16.12	16.12	40.31

BECERRA

Low	39.50	104.81	60.46	12.09	12.09	40.31
High	44.34	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	40.31
Mostly	42.33	112.87	68.53	16.12	16.12	40.31

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-whole birds had slowed and was seasonally light to fair at best. Seller offering were in close balance to fully adequate on the larger sizes; fully adequate on the smaller. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 70 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, volumes differed from plant to plant, but offerings were at least adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

RANGE	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
	58-74
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	63.46
NO. OF BOXES	9,012

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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